



AGRICULTURAL ALTERNATIVES

Instructions for using the interactive budgets

You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to use these forms. If you do not have this program installed on your computer, you can download a free version [here](#).

You can make changes to the interactive PDF budget files for this publication by inputting your own prices and quantities in the green-outlined cells for any item. You will need to click on and add your own estimated price and quantity information to all of the green-outlined cells to complete your customized budget.

The cells outlined in red automatically calculate your revised totals based on the changes you made to the cells outlined in green.

When you are finished, you can print the budget using the green **Print Form** button at the bottom of the form.

You can use the red **Clear Form** button to clear all the information from your budget when you are finished.

Sample Onion Production Budget

Summary of estimated income and costs per acre using plasticulture production methods.

Item	Quantity or number of operations	Your Quantity	Unit	Price	Your Price	Total	Calculated Estimate
Income							
Onions	1,500		25 # bags	\$10.00		\$15,000.00	
Variable Costs							
Custom							
Soil Test	1		kit	\$13.00		\$13.00	
Fertilizer spreading	1		acre	\$8.20		\$8.20	
Moldboard plowing	1		acre	\$25.20		\$25.20	
Disking	2		acre	\$19.90		\$39.80	
Harrowing	1		acre	\$14.40		\$14.40	
Pest scouting	1		acre	\$20.00		\$20.00	
Fertilizer/lime							
Lime including spreading	0.5		ton	\$29.00		\$14.50	
N	120		lb.	\$0.23		\$27.60	
P	160		lb.	\$0.24		\$38.40	
K	180		lb.	\$0.24		\$43.20	
Herbicide	1		acre	\$1.52		\$1.52	
Fungicides	1		acre	\$195.73		\$195.73	
Insecticide	1		acre	\$113.83		\$113.83	
Plastic mulch	10,890		feet	\$0.03		\$326.70	
Drip tape	21,780		feet	\$0.02		\$435.60	
Onion sets	50,000		sets	\$0.03		\$1,500.00	
Operator labor	4		hour	\$18.00		\$72.00	
Seasonal labor	6		hour	\$15.00		\$90.00	
Diesel Fuel	53.0		gallon	\$2.60		\$137.80	
Repairs & maintenance							
Tractors	1		acre	\$41.03		\$41.03	
Implements	1		acre	\$68.83		\$68.83	

Additional expenses							
Additional expenses							
Harvest and marketing							
Harvest labor	250		hour	\$15.00		\$3,750.00	
Packing labor	20		hour	\$15.00		\$300.00	
Packaging							
Mesh onion bags	1,500		ea.	\$0.40		\$600.00	
Marketing	15%		sales	\$15,000.00		\$2,250.00	
Interest on operating capital	1		acre	\$102.43		\$102.43	
Total variable costs						\$10,229.77	
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Fixed Costs							
Implements ¹	1		acre	\$164.29		\$164.29	
Tractors	1		acre	\$82.09		\$82.09	
Land charge	1		acre	\$200.00		\$200.00	
Food safety inspection ²	1		crop	\$250.00		\$250.00	
Additional expenses							
Total fixed costs						\$696.38	
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Total costs						\$10,926.15	
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Returns							
Net returns over variable costs						\$4,770.23	
Net returns						\$4,073.85	
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Break-even							
Break-even yield 25 pound mesh bags						1,093	
Break-even priceper 25 pound mesh bags						\$7.28	

1. Includes irrigation system.

2. This is a portion of the total cost for the entire farm producing more than one crop.

You should monitor local markets and contact suppliers to determine current prices for all items contained in this sample budget.